

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are currently pending in the application, and have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,625,451 (La Medica).

Regarding the Examiner's rejection of independent Claim 1, the Examiner states that La Medica teaches each and every element of the claim. Claim 1 has been amended and is now further distinguished.

La Medica teaches a mobile communication system with user-selectable modes of operation. The modes of operation refer to system selection, such as choosing a specific roaming network from a list, choosing a home network, or choosing to scan for a list of available networks. In other words, La Medica teaches a dual-mode network, which is a communication network that uses both analog and digital data formats for wireless communication between the mobile stations and base stations. Moreover, although La Medica teaches a vocoder 35, this vocoder is directly connected to a digital transceiver 47 and an analog transceiver 49 (e.g., see FIG. 2). Furthermore, La Medica teaches in an analog mode of operation (i.e., an analog communication mode), the vocoder 35 (or switches associated therewith --which are not shown) effectively bypass the conversion circuitry within the vocoder 35 and that the signals pass between the analog transceiver 49 and the speaker 33 and the microphone 31. In other words, La Medica teaches bypassing the vocoder 35 when operating in an analog communication mode.

In contrast to that which is taught by La Medica, amended Claim 1 includes the recitation of determining whether a request for the voice function is input while the dual-

mode radio mobile terminal is in an analog communication mode, switching the vocoder into a digital mode to operate the voice function while the dual-mode radio mobile terminal is in the analog communication mode, and operating the voice function in the digital mode, which is neither taught nor suggested by La Medica. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) of Claim 1 be withdrawn.

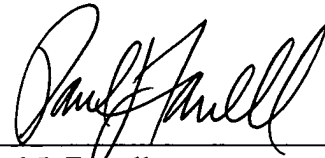
Regarding the Examiner's rejection of independent Claim 5, Claim 5 has been amended and is now further distinguished. Amended Claim 5 includes the recitation of determining whether a request for the voice function is input while the mobile terminal is operating in an analog communication mode, and switching the vocoder from a PCM mode to a packet mode while the dual-mode radio terminal is in the analog communication mode, which is neither taught nor suggested by La Medica. Accordingly, for at least the same reasons as set forth above with respect to the rejection of Claim 1, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) of Claim 5 be withdrawn.

Regarding the Examiner's rejection of independent Claim 6, Claim 6 has been amended and is now further distinguished. Amended Claim 6 includes the recitation of determining whether a request for the voice-function is input while the radio terminal is in an analog mode, and switching a vocoder from PCM mode to packet mode while the radio terminal is in the analog communication mode, which is neither taught nor suggested by La Medica. Accordingly, for at least the same reasons as set forth above with respect to the rejection of Claim 1, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) of Claim 6 be withdrawn.

Independent Claims 1, 5, and 6 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 2-4, these are likewise believed to be allowable by virtue of their dependence on their respective amended independent claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of dependent Claims 2-4 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1-6, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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